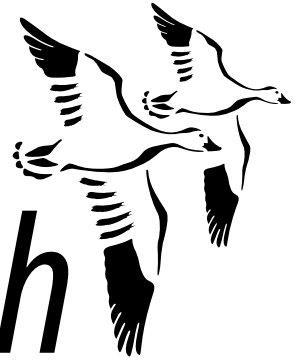


Wildlife Watch

Wildlife Management Advisory Council North Slope



Special Edition

June 2008

Celebration for Yukon North Slope Elders

A special evening event recognizing Aklavik Elders for their contributions to the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) [(WMAC NS)] was held in December of this past year in the community of Aklavik. For over two decades the Council has worked with Elders in the community to incorporate traditional knowledge into both its research and planning process. The use of traditional knowledge has led to positive results for wildlife conservation and management on the Yukon North Slope.

The celebration involved feasting, speeches, a slide show, and presentations, all in the name of appreciation for the contributions of Elders who have helped to make the application of their many years of acquired knowledge and practical experience possible.

The Council recognized individuals who have passed on, as well as those who are still active in the community:

Danny A. Gordon
Andy and Sophie Kayotuk
Tom Arey
George Allen
Titus Allen
Harry Gordon
Amos Paul
Kathleen Hansen
Gus and Jean Tardiff
Thomas Selamio
Nellie Arey
Barbara Allen
Annie B. Gordon
Jacob Archie
Danny C. and Annie C. Gordon
Sheba Selamio
Moses Kayotuk
Donald Aviugana
Sara Meeyok

Elders each received personalized framed certificates, as well as small gifts from WMAC (NS). The Council also recognized two important partner organizations: the Aklavik Elders Committee and the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, for whom gift



*Annie B. Gordon accepting her gift of appreciation - an engraved tea kettle.
Photo credit Jennifer Smith*

certificates were also presented.

Guests in attendance included representatives from the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, Parks Canada, Yukon Government, Canadian Wildlife Service, the Joint Secretariat, and the Inuvialuit Game Council.

Lindsay Staples, Chair of WMAC (NS), Frank Pokiak, Chair of the Inuvialuit Game Council, and Norm Snow, Executive Director of the Joint Secretariat, all gave speeches, extending gratitude for the knowledge and experience that the Elders have shared for the benefit of present and future generations so that they may enjoy the land and water, fish and wildlife of this unique place.

Quyanainni. Thank you.

See the other side for more photos of the event.



Clockwise from top right: Lindsay Staples donning his gift from the Aklavik HTC; Doug Larsen presenting Moses Kayotuk with his gift and certificate; recognized Aklavik Elders, guests, and members of the WMAC (NS); community members enjoying the feast; Richard Gordon presenting Nellie Arey with her gift and certificate. Photo credits Jennifer Smith

Inuvialuit Game Council:
Members: Danny C. Gordon
and Ernest Pokiak;
Alternates: Evelyn Storr
and Lawrence Amos

Government of Canada:
Member: Vacant;
Alternate: Wendy Nixon
Government of Yukon:
Member: Doug Larsen;
Alternate: Dorothy Cooley

Chairperson:
Lindsay Staples
Secretariat:
Jennifer Smith
Michelle Christensen

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